

NATIONAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

NFIC-30.1/6
16 August 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR NATIONAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE COUNCIL

FROM: Walter Elder
Executive Secretary

SUBJECT: Contracting for Communications Services

1. The Director of Central Intelligence has learned that some agencies are considering contracting with private sector firms for operation of their all-source communications centers as a means of complying with Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76.

2. This has raised concerns within the Intelligence Community about retaining the necessary security protection for the wide range of sensitive intelligence flowing into such communications centers from other intelligence agencies. Similar concerns have been expressed to the DCI in Congressional inquiries on this subject.

3. The use of contractors to operate an all-source communication center, in a National Foreign Intelligence Council agency would necessitate exploring other channels for delivery of intelligence information. Using couriers would be one possibility. While this would result in regrettable time delays, security requirements dictate that we not expose an unnecessarily wide range of intelligence information to contractor personnel.


Walter Elder

STAT